



September 7, 2016

Dear Senator,

On behalf of the United States travel industry, we are imploring Congress to make it a priority to provide the necessary funding to address the growing threat of the Zika virus.

As we stated in a letter to Congress prior to its August recess that was signed by over 100 companies, and as we are stating again, a failure by Congress to act quickly jeopardizes not only health but also the U.S. economy. The number of individuals with the Zika virus **has grown** and there have been multiple instances of local transmission. The impact to the travel industry will have adverse and wide spread economic ramifications. Our nation's travel industry generates \$2.1 trillion in economic output, is an economic engine driving job creation across the United States, and is a top 10 employer in 49 states and the District of Columbia. That economic activity, as well as the millions of jobs supported by travel, could be put at very significant risk as a result of the virus and quick action by Congress can help prevent this.

Funding for Zika efforts will ramp up local responses to the growing threat, support an acceleration of research and development on vaccines as well as advanced approaches to mosquito control. According to the National Institutes of Health and CDC, money will run out at the end of September so it is imperative that Congress makes funding a first priority when it returns from August recess.

Sincerely,

Alabama Restaurant & Hospitality Alliance
Alaska Hotel & Lodging Association
American Gaming Association
American Hotel & Lodging Association
American Recreation Coalition
American Society of Association Executives
American Society of Travel Agents
Arizona Lodging & Tourism Association
Arkansas Hospitality Association
Ashford Hospitality Prime, Inc.
Ashford Hospitality Trust, Inc.
Ashford Inc.

Asian American Hotel Owners Association
Association of Amusement Parks & Attractions
B.F. Saul Company Hospitality Group
Best Western International
California Association of Boutique & Breakfast Inns
California Hotel & Lodging Association
California Travel Association
CityPASS
Colorado Hotel & Lodging Association
Connecticut Lodging Association
Cruise Lines International Association
Dallas/Fort Worth Airport
Davidson Hotels & Resorts
Destination Marketing Association International
DiamondRock Hospitality Company
Expedia, Inc.
Experience Kissimmee
Florida Restaurant & Lodging Association
Fort Worth Convention & Visitors Bureau
Georgia Hotel & Lodging Association
Greater MIAMI Convention & Visitors Bureau
Greater Orlando Aviation Authority
Hersha Hospitality Trust
Hilton Worldwide
Host Hotels and Resorts
Hotel Association of New York City, Inc.
Hotel Association of Washington DC
Hyatt Hotels Corporation
Illinois Hotel & Lodging Association
Indiana Restaurant & Lodging Association
InterContinental Hotels Group
International Association of Amusement Parks & Attractions
Interstate Hotels & Resorts
LA Tourism
Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority
LaSalle Hotel Properties
Loews Hotels
Louisiana Hotel & Lodging Association
Maine Innkeepers Association
Mammoth Lakes Tourism
Maritz Global Events
Marriott Worldwide
Maryland Hotel & Lodging Association
Massachusetts Lodging Association

Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority
MGM Resorts International
Miami International Airport
Michigan Lodging and Tourism Association
Miles
Milestone Hospitality Management
Minnesota Lodging Association
Mise en Place Hospitality Group, Inc.
Montana Lodging & Hospitality Association
Myrtle Beach
National Park Hospitality Association
National Retail Association
National Retail Federation
National Tour Association
Nebraska Hotel & Motel Association
Nevada Hotel & Lodging Association
New Castle Hotels & Resorts
New Hampshire Lodging & Restaurant Association
New Jersey Hotel & Lodging Association
New York State Hospitality & Tourism Association
North Carolina Restaurant & Lodging Association
NYC & Company
Ohio Hotel & Lodging Association
Oklahoma Hotel & Lodging Association
Orange County Visitors Association
Oregon Restaurant & Lodging Association
Pebblebrook Hotel Trust
Pennsylvania Restaurant & Lodging Association
PM Hotel Group
Professional Association of Innkeepers International
Real Hospitality Group
Rhode Island Hospitality Association
RLJ Lodging Trust
Sabre
San Francisco International Airport
San Francisco Travel
Sedona Rouge Hotel & Spa
Simpleview
South Carolina Restaurant & Lodging Association
South Dakota Department of Tourism
Starwood Hotels & Resorts
STR
Sunstone Hotel Investors, Inc.
SYTA

Tampa International Airport
Tennessee Hospitality & Tourism Association
Texas Hotel & Lodging Association
Texas Travel Industry Association
The Hawaii Lodging & Tourism Association
The Hotel Group Holdings, LLC
The Shubert Organization, Inc.
Tourism Cares
Tradewinds Island Resorts
Travel Portland
U.S. Travel Association
Utah Hotel & Lodging Association
Vermont Chamber of Commerce
Virginia Hospitality & Travel Association
Visit Anaheim
VISIT FLORIDA
Visit North Carolina
Visit Orlando
Visit Santa Barbara
Visit TAMPA Bay
Visit Wichita
Walt Disney World
Washington Lodging Association
West Virginia Hospitality & Travel Association
Wisconsin Hotel & Lodging Association
Wyndham Worldwide
Wyoming Lodging & Restaurant Association
Xenia Hotels & Resorts, Inc.